

Dated: April 30, 2003.

Edward Schultz,

*Acting Director, Procurement and Grants
Office, Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention.*

[FR Doc. 03-11139 Filed 5-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163-18-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Program Announcement 03082]

Coordination of Activities Between the CDC, National Immunization Program and State and Local Immunization Programs; Notice of Availability of Funds

Application Deadline: June 20, 2003.

A. Authority and Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number

This program is authorized under section 311 of the Public Health Service Act, (42 U.S.C. 243), as amended and section 317 (k)(1) of the Public Health Service Act, (42 U.S.C. 247b(k)(1)), as amended. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number is 93.185.

B. Purpose

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the availability of fiscal year (FY) 2003 funds for a grant program for the coordination of activities between the National Immunization Program (NIP) and state and local public health immunization programs. This program addresses the "Healthy People 2010" focus areas of Immunization and Infectious Diseases.

The purpose of this program is to develop, establish, enhance, and manage an organizational network among immunization programs which would facilitate, coordinate, integrate, and expand state and local efforts to improve overall national immunization prevention programs. Specifically, the program will (1) maintain an effective communication capacity among the nation's immunization program managers and CDC; (2) establish a platform for integrated problem solving, national policy analysis and decision making among immunization program managers; and (3) establish a capacity to coordinate the consultations and collaborations that will enable state and local immunization programs to assimilate and implement the latest programmatic, scientific and technological developments and

concepts affecting the goal of immunizing our nation's citizens.

Measurable outcomes of the program will be in alignment with NIP performance goals that apply to state and local public health immunization programs:

1. Reduce the number of indigenous cases of vaccine-preventable diseases.
2. Ensure that two year-olds are appropriately vaccinated.

In addition, focus should be placed on the "Healthy People 2010" goals to:

1. Increase routine vaccination coverage levels of adolescents.
2. Increase hepatitis B vaccine coverage among high-risk groups.
3. Increase the proportion of adults who are vaccinated annually against influenza and are vaccinated, as recommended, against pneumococcal disease.

C. Eligible Applicants

Applications may be submitted by public or private national nonprofit organizations with a comprehensive state and local area representation of key officials who are actively engaged in directing immunization program efforts.

Assistance will be provided to one applicant that can demonstrate the ability to accomplish the objectives stated above. Applicant should be able to demonstrate ability to provide technical expertise in the areas of program management, vaccine management, information technology, quality assurance, health care delivery, health education and disease surveillance which is required to ensure effective implementation of population-based immunization programs.

Note: Title 2 of the United States Code section 1611 states that an organization described in section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that engages in lobbying activities is not eligible to receive Federal funds constituting an award, grant or loan.

D. Funding

Availability of Funds: Approximately \$150,000 is available in FY 2003 to fund one award. It is expected that the award will begin on or about September 15, 2003, and will be made for a 12-month budget period within a project period of up to five years. Funding estimates may change.

Continuation awards within an approved project period will be made on the basis of satisfactory progress as evidenced by required reports and the availability of funds.

Use of Funds:

Funds cannot be used for construction or renovation, to purchase or lease vehicles or to purchase office space.

Recipient Financial Participation: No matching funds are required for this program.

E. Program Requirements

In conducting activities to achieve the purpose of this program, the recipient will be responsible for the following activities:

1. Organize, establish and maintain liaison activities to collaborate with NIP and other affiliate organizations to attain national immunization goals.

2. Provide information on key immunization developments to state and local Immunization Program Managers, other key Immunization Program staff, and other organizations via newsletters, conference calls and other multimedia sources.

3. Develop and maintain a forum for state and local Immunization Program Managers to exchange epidemiologic and other programmatic information, respond to emerging issues, develop policy positions, and advise key officials, including CDC, on the prevention of Vaccine Preventable Diseases.

4. Sponsor and provide leadership for a nationally recognized forum (*i.e.*, an annual meeting) for state and local immunization program managers across the nation in which to exchange and disseminate epidemiologic and other public health information, respond to emerging issues, develop and foster consistent state and local policy positions, and advise key officials, including CDC, on the prevention of Vaccine Preventable Diseases. Organize and convene meetings and workshops on an as needed basis for the purpose of exchanging information and program updates.

5. Identify and assess the immunization-related public health infrastructure needs of state and local Immunization Programs.

6. Assist in developing the agenda and selecting and obtaining speakers for the National Immunization Conference and the Annual Immunization Program Managers Meeting.

7. Promote the adequate and efficient allocation of resources to immunization efforts.

F. Content

Letter of Intent (LOI): A LOI is optional for this program. The Program Announcement title and number must appear in the LOI. The narrative should be no more than two pages, single-spaced, printed on one side, with one-inch margins, and unreduced 12-point font. Your letter of intent will not be evaluated, but will be used to assist CDC in planning for the objective review for